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Montebello Man Charged With Capital Murder After Ambushing Seller

A man was charged today with killing a man who had arranged to sell a gold necklace to him in Montebello earlier this week, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Sean Matthew Garcia (dob 4/7/90) was charged in case BA440271 with one count each of murder with the special circumstance that the crime occurred during the commission of an attempted robbery. The complaint also notes that Garcia personally and intentionally used a rifle that caused great bodily injury and death.

Garcia is expected to be arraigned today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Prosecutors said Brian Gomez, 28, arranged to sell a gold necklace to Garcia. On Sept. 28, the two men met in the 1600 block of Neil Armstrong Street. Garcia, who carried an assault rifle, is accused of chasing Gomez and firing twice at his feet.

When Gomez stopped and reached into his pocket to get the necklace, Garcia allegedly shot and killed the victim.

Garcia also is charged with one count of robbery stemming from an incident in August where he is accused of stealing an assault rifle from its owner.

If convicted as charged, Garcia could face the death penalty. Prosecutors will determine at a later date whether to seek capital punishment.

The case remains under investigation by the Montebello Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.